Appl. No. 10/649,676

Amendment dated: September 7, 2004

Reply to OA of: July 12, 2004

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claims 2-9 and 11 and the indication that claims 1 and 10 are objected to because of certain formalities. Accordingly, claims 1 and 10 have been amended and all the claims in the application are now allowed.

Applicants attach herewith a newly executed Declaration as required by the Examiner which identifies the application by application number and filing date. Accordingly, it is most respectfully requested that this objection be withdrawn.

The objection to the specification for informalities on pages 1, 2 and 4 have been obviated by the amendments thereto. Accordingly, it is most respectfully requested that this objection be withdrawn.

The objection to claims 1 and 10 because of informalities has been carefully considered but in view of the amendments to claims 1 and 10, it is most respectfully requested that this objection be withdrawn.

In view of the above comments and further amendments to the specification and claims, favorable reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims now present in the application are most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

Richard E. Fichter

Registration No. 26,382

625 Slaters Lane, 4th Fl. Alexandria, Virginia 22314 Phone: (703) 683-0500 Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

REF:kdd

September 6, 2004